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hope to meet. If, however, our people have been trained from their youth to recognize in every sharp difference of opinion the possibility of there being some higher and better ground of agreement, undiscovered as yet, there cannot fail to be in time a little greater readiness to appeal to an impartial world, to peoples not involved in the dispute, and to respect the suggestion from without of a better way to an honorable peace. It is here that an increased understanding of other nations than our own may be expected to reinforce the teaching that leads men to hope for a better way. It is not simply that a knowledge of other nations well taught in the schools will lead us to consider more carefully the claims of an antagonist in time of trouble, but that it will prepare our people, or any people, to look with more favor upon an appeal to the judgment of the civilized world.

In the second place, such an appeal to an impartial tribunal would be greatly strengthened in the minds of any people if that people were grounded in some of the elementary principles of human law. On other grounds than this, it is to be desired that the elementary principles of legal right should be more distinctly taught in our schools along with the principles of common morality. Those great elementary principles of right and justice, which have been the nourishing thought of many of the greatest minds of our race, are in themselves a most desirable element in the liberal culture of all our people. I cannot but think that a people trained to have respect for such principles as these will be so much the better prepared to accept, in time of controversy, the view that neither party to the dispute is the rightful judge of the cause.

Briefly stated then, the contention of this paper is: That the schools of our whole people may properly contribute to the movement for international arbitration only in ways that contribute to the general purposes of education, but that positive improvements in education are called for to-day in ways that must inevitably reinforce the arbitration movement. Among these ways are endeavors to promote among a given people, as our own, a more intimate and appreciative knowledge of the character of other modern nations with whom this people has to do; the promotion in the schools of that type of thinking which readily passes beyond its partial convictions, no matter how earnestly held, to larger views in which opposing convictions may find their rightful recognition and come to agreement; the teaching in the schools, as a part of instruction in morals and civil government, of some of the principles of legal justice, which shall enable our people to adjust themselves freely and consciously to the reign of law in all great human affairs. The argument amounts to this, that our education of all our people shall be made at once more scientific and more humanistic in its character, and that the schools shall teach the people in all their concerns to look for a better way.

The British Prime Minister's Latest Word on Limitation of Armaments.

In his address before the Manchester Liberal Federation on the 9th of May, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman spoke as follows in regard to the German Chancellor's

declaration that Germany would take no part at The Hague in the discussion of the limitation of armaments:

"A speech has lately been made by the German Chancellor, as to which I must say a word, on a matter in which many of us in this country are deeply interested, and which His Majesty's Government have, from the moment of their taking office, deemed it to be their duty to take up,—I mean the Hague Conference and the question of the reduction of armaments. We have not been without hope, although the hope may have been faint at times, that the great powers, including Germany, would see their way to join in such a discussion. Now that we know that discussion must be conducted without their participation, I do not pretend to say we are not greatly disappointed.

"It might — indeed it probably would — have been impossible to arrive at once at a formula which would have secured a general acceptance; but we hoped a beginning might have been made to this extent, that a measure of mutual confidence would have been established which would have borne fruit later on and enabled us, in concert with other nations, to gradually reduce the excessive and intolerable burden of armaments which is the scourge of Europe. I do not despair of something yet being done [hear, hear], though it will be far more difficult to accomplish without the general concurrence of all the great powers in the preliminary proposition that such a reduction is a thing to be desired and sought.

"Now I know that we have been suspected of a wish, a sinister wish, to embarrass Germany by raising this question. It is an absolutely unfounded suspicion. [Cheers.] Had Germany approached us with the initiative we should have met her cordially and without any *arrière pensée*. [Hear, hear.] Our policy has been dictated simply and solely by general considerations, which we have never concealed. [Hear, hear.] We regard the progressive increase of armaments as a curse, and believing that it is so regarded by the peoples and governments of other states, and that the evidence is before our eyes of the advance in the direction of peace by arbitration treaties and by the elimination of many old-standing causes of suspicion, we thought it our duty to seize the opportunity which the Hague Conference offered to see whether a step might not be taken in the direction of reducing armaments.

"I think we were right. We were attempting no more than other governments under less favorable circumstances have attempted. Remember that the Hague Conference itself was first convoked by one of the sovereigns of Europe. We still seek to carry out the policy advocated after the Crimean War by Mr. Disraeli when he said, 'Let us terminate this disastrous system of rival expenditure, and mutually agree, with no hypocrisy, but in a manner and under circumstances that would admit of no doubt, by a reduction of armaments, that peace is really our policy.' The German government think that such a method is idle and illusory, and as they hold that view and will have no share in the policy, I recognize and respect the candor with which Prince Bülow has decided to stand aside from the discussion altogether, and, although His Majesty's Government deeply regret the necessity of such abstention, they appreciate the complete openness with which the German statement has

been made and the perfectly candid tone of the Chancellor's speech."

First Annual Meeting of the Peace Society of the City of New York.

The first annual meeting of the Peace Society of the city of New York was held on Wednesday afternoon, May 1, at the Hotel Astor. In the absence of the president, the meeting was called to order by the secretary, and Chancellor Henry M. MacCracken, one of the vice-presidents, was elected chairman for the occasion. Dr. MacCracken stated briefly the purpose of the meeting, namely, to hear reports, elect officers and promote mutual acquaintance, and then called for the report of the secretary.

The secretary gave a short history of the founding of the society; showed how it had grown in one year from a membership of twenty-three to over six hundred persons; gave a list of the various committees already formed; and put forward the plans of the executive committee for the ensuing year. His report was accepted.

In the absence of the treasurer his report was read by the auditor, and showed a balance up to date of \$3,114.00. This report, which had been examined and found to be correct by the auditor, was accepted and approved by the society.

Rev. Frederick Lynch then reported for the committee on meetings. During the winter over fifty meetings had been held under the auspices of the Peace Society, in the churches, public lecture centres, Y. M. C. A. halls and club rooms, not only in Manhattan and Brooklyn, but in outside towns in Connecticut and New Jersey. The object of these meetings was to arouse public sentiment and educate the people in the ideals which make for international brotherhood. Among those who spoke repeatedly at these meetings were: Dr. Abbott, Rabbi Wise, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Holt, Professor Dutton, Professor Fagnani and Mr. Mead. Mr. Lynch closed his report with a forecast of the work which the committee hopes to undertake next year.

Mr. Hamilton Holt, chairman of the committee on publicity, then reported on the three Peace dinners which had been given under the auspices of the society to the editors of the leading newspapers and periodicals, the city editors and the reporters of New York city.

Following these reports, Prof. George W. Kirchwey presented the society in the name of Mr. Muschenheim, proprietor of the Hotel Astor, with the gavel which Mr. Carnegie used at the dinner of the National Arbitration and Peace Congress, and the large peace flag which hung over the Hotel Astor while the Peace Congress was in session. These gifts were accepted in behalf of the society by Mr. Ely, who moved a vote of thanks not only for the gavel and the flag, but as well for the courtesy which Mr. Muschenheim had shown the society in opening to them the ball room of the Hotel Astor for their annual meeting. This motion was unanimously carried.

The next business of the meeting was the election of officers for the coming year. They were as follows: president, Andrew Carnegie; secretary, Samuel T. Dutton; treasurer, Talmadge B. Johnson; auditor, Algernon S. Frissell; vice-presidents, Lyman Abbott,

Marcus M. Marks, William R. Huntington, R. Fulton Cutting, Joseph F. Mooney, Oscar S. Straus, Robert C. Ogden, Charles E. Hughes, Horace White, Oswald Villard, George Foster Peabody, William J. Schieffelin, Henry M. MacCracken; directors, John B. Clark, Lindsay Russell, Hayne Davis, Ralph M. Easley, Robert E. Ely, Algernon S. Frissell, Hamilton Holt, John H. Finley, Charles E. Jefferson, Henry M. Leipziger, Frederick Lynch, Mrs. Anna Garlin Spencer, George W. Kirchwey, Samuel J. Barrows, John B. Moore, George Haven Putnam, C. P. Fagnani, Miss Mary J. Pierson, Alfred J. Boulton, Ernst Richard, Charles Sprague Smith.

Dr. MacCracken then read some resolutions expressing the regret of the society that its honored president was prevented by indisposition from being present, and congratulating him on his accomplishments in behalf of bringing peace upon earth and goodwill among men. These resolutions were adopted.

The meeting closed with two addresses, one by Prof. John Bassett Moore of Columbia University, who spoke of the encouraging events which had taken place as a result of the first Hague Conference, and Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, who showed some of the features of the National Arbitration and Peace Congress which gave promise for the future. Before the adjournment the secretary read a cablegram of greeting from the Peace Society of Stockholm to the Peace Society of the city of New York, and he was authorized to send an appropriate reply.

The Need of Popular Understanding of International Law.

BY ELIHU ROOT, SECRETARY OF STATE.

The increase of popular control over national conduct, which marks the political development of our time, makes it constantly more important that the great body of the people in each country should have a just conception of their international rights and duties.

Governments do not make war nowadays unless assured of general and hearty support among their people; and it sometimes happens that governments are driven into war against their will by the pressure of strong popular feeling. It is not uncommon to see two governments striving in the most conciliatory and patient way to settle some matter of difference peaceably, while a large part of the people in both countries maintain an uncompromising and belligerent attitude, insisting upon the extreme and uttermost view of their own rights in a way which, if it were to control national action, would render peaceable settlement impossible.

One of the chief obstacles to the peaceable adjustment of the international controversies is the fact that the negotiator or arbitrator who yields any part of the extreme claims of his own country and concedes the reasonableness of any argument of the other side is quite likely to be violently condemned by great numbers of his own countrymen, who have never taken the pains to make themselves familiar with the merits of the controversy or have considered only the arguments on their own side. Sixty-four years have passed since the north-eastern boundary between the United States and Canada was settled by the Webster-Ashburton treaty of 1842; yet to this day there are many people on our side of the line who condemn Mr. Webster for sacrificing their